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13        OCT 26 1999        MS. HAUTER: I'm Wenonah Hauter. I'm  
14 Director of Public Citizens Critical Mass Energy Project. We  
15 are a nonprofit research lobbying and advocacy organization  
16 that was founded by Ralph Nader in 1971. We represent  
17 citizens in the hall of power, and we also educate the public  
18 about corporate misconduct. For instance, the Nuclear Energy  
19 Institute web site claims that nuclear power is emissions  
20 free and that nuclear power plants are clean, green machines.  
1... 21                        | DOE's Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
22 does not adequately address the vast number of public health

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1 environmental and socioeconomic impacts of the repository at  
2 Yucca Mountain. Because the proposed repository is such an  
3 unprecedented endeavor, every effort needs to be made to  
4 explore the consequences of each and every action associated  
5 with building, monitoring and closing the repository, as well  
6 as transporting the waste to the repository.

7                   For 50 years, this country has shied away  
8 from confronting the problems that the nuclear age has  
9 caused. It is vital that we insist upon looking at these  
10 problems in the face and that we find sound solutions, and we  
11 need to honestly characterize the results of the decisions.  
12 In addition, it is crucial to include the public in these  
13 decisions. Citizens need to be informed of the potential  
14 risks and the possible benefits of any decisions that are  
15 made regarding nuclear waste. A debate should be had by the  
16 citizens of the nation who are going to be exposed to this  
17 waste as it moves on the roads and rails to the repository at  
18 Yucca Mountain.

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19                   The EIS does not adequately consider the  
20 impacts of transporting the waste materials to Yucca  
21 Mountain. In Chapter 3, affected environment, DOE notes that  
22 the so-called region of influence for public health and

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1 safety along the existing transportation routes is a half a  
2 mile from the line of transportation right of ways for  
3 nonaccident conditions, and it's 50 miles for an accident  
4 condition.

5                   However, the EIS does not show the specific  
6 routes outside of Nevada to be used to transport the waste  
7 materials. It does not address the base line conditions  
8 along these routes. In order to do a complete impact  
9 analysis, DOE should map each specific route and establish  
10 base line conditions along those routes. It should be  
11 clearly and honestly identified the potential impacts that  
12 may occur if an accident happens.

13                   The truth is that radioactive waste will  
14 need to move through 43 states, pass the homes, work places,  
15 schools and hospitals of 50 million Americans to get to Yucca  
16 Mountain. Those 50 million Americans have a right to be  
17 informed about the risks associated with transporting waste  
18 and the impacts on public health and the environment.

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19                   Further, the DEIS fails to address the fact  
20 that the number of shipments and the amount of radioactive  
21 materials will be shipped is unprecedented in world history.  
22 About 90 percent of the volume would be spent fuel from

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1 nuclear power plants and virtually none of this type of  
2 material has ever been shipped before. Not only is it  
3 unknown what type of container would be used to transport the  
4 waste, but these containers have been neither constructed yet  
5 nor tested. Therefore, the impact statement is incomplete.

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6 In addition, it does not examine what  
7 emergency response personnel training and equipment would be  
8 needed in all of the communities along the transportation  
9 routes and what the specific impacts of a transportation  
10 accident would be. The DEIS does not address the impact of  
11 several thousand of nuclear waste shipments along  
12 transportation routes on property values and community  
13 economies, since the waste is to be transported for the next  
14 30 years.

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15 And then we should turn to Nevada. Clark  
16 County, Nevada has the fastest growing economy in the U.S.  
17 and the 10th largest school district in the country. The  
18 DEIS fails to recognize the impact a nuclear waste dump  
19 located in the next county over could have on such a booming

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20 economy. It does not address how the health of several  
21 thousand school children will be affected. And the number of  
22 retirees moving into this area is also increasing. It does

7 continued 1 not address the potential impacts to individuals living in  
2 retirement communities or nursing homes, and these are  
3 essentially captive receptors of radiation.

4 MR. LAWSON: 30 seconds, please.

8 5 MS. HAUTER: Other issues are not adequately  
6 discussed in the DEIS, including ground water upswelling,  
7 earthquakes at the repository site. Several investigators  
8 have suggested that the water table in the vicinity of Yucca  
9 Mountain has risen dramatically, as much as 330 feet. All of  
10 these things need to be examined and more.

9 11 In conclusion, we are talking and arguing  
12 about statistics, but what this is really about is politics,  
13 as we all know. The nuclear industry has enormous resources.  
14 They use their campaign contribution, and they have a cozy  
15 partnership with their allies in the federal agencies. But  
16 on our side, those of us fighting the dump, we have justice  
17 and our citizen activists are motivated by passion, not by  
18 dollars. I predict we will win.

19 MR. LAWSON: Thank you. The next speaker is  
20 Darrell Campbell and then Jerry McKnight and Les Bradshaw.